

ANGUS COUNCIL

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE –13 OCTOBER 2009

ANGUS LOCAL ACCESS FORUM – MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

**ABSTRACT: This report advises the Committee of the changes to the membership of the Angus Local Access Forum.**

**1. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee:-

1. agrees to the appointment of Ms Clare Broadhurst as a User Representative;
2. agrees to the appointment of Mr Gordon Cairns as a Land Manager Representative;
3. agrees to the appointment of Mrs Patricia Harrow, as a Community Representative;
4. agrees to Mr Murray Soutar being confirmed as a reserve member for the Land Manager Group.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Members agreed the appointment of representatives to the Angus Local Access Forum in 2005 (report No. 519.05 refers). Changes to the User Group structure were duly reported to members (report No. 1180/05 refers) and further changes to the Community Group Structure were advised (report No. 1203/06 refers).

**3. CURRENT POSITION**

- 3.1 The Forum has a rolling programme with regard to replacement of representatives. Both a User Representative and Land Manager Representative were due to stand down from the Forum following the public meeting in June 2009.
- 3.2 As previously all those held on the database who have expressed an interest in access issues were contacted seeking nominations for the above vacancies.
- 3.3 Following this exercise three people put themselves forward for the Land Management vacancy, one of whom later withdrew. Only one application was received for the User Representative vacancy, another having been received after the closing date for application.

**4. PROPOSALS**

- 4.1 Following a meeting with the candidates, the Land Management Representatives on the Forum, with the agreement of both candidates, recommended that Gordon Cairns be appointed to the Forum and Murray Soutar be held as a reserve candidate.
- 4.2 Following discussion amongst the User Representatives it was recommended that Clare Broadhurst be recommended for appointment to the Forum.
- 4.3 In August 2006, Geoff Miller and George Alexander were appointed as Community Representatives following a peer selection meeting (report No. 1203/06 refers). At that meeting, it was agreed that Mrs Patricia Harrow be recommended as a reserve member should any Community Representative resign from the Forum. Mr George Alexander has subsequently resigned due to work commitments and Mrs Harrow is recommended as his replacement.

4.4 In accordance with the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, the members of the Local Access Forum are to be appointed by the local authority. It is therefore recommended that the above candidates be appointed as members of the Forum.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from the recommendations contained in this report.

## **6. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

## **7. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 The issues dealt with in this report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective (as required by legislation). An [equalities impact assessment](#) is not required.

## **8. SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT**

8.1 This report contributes to the following local outcome contained within the Single Outcome Agreement for Angus.

- The importance and benefits to society of the environment is recognised.
- A good quality of life is enjoyed by all in Angus.

## **9. CONSULTATION**

9.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services, Head of Law & Administration and Head of Finance have been consulted during the preparation of this report.

## **10. CONCLUSION**

10.1 Angus Local Access Forum has greatly assisted Angus Council with issues relating to the implementation of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 and more latterly with the progress of the Draft Core Paths Plan. The members of the Forum past and present are volunteers who have freely given their time and expertise for the benefit of outdoor access in Angus.

**ERIC S LOWSON  
DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

**NOTE:** No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

**P&T/GWC/GEP/IAL  
18 September 2009**